Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

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The Irving Berlin Collection

Also: Congress Comes to the Library

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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Library Welcomes New Members of Congress

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and Director of the Congressional Research Service Joseph Ross were quick to mail their congratulations to newly elected members of the 103rd Congress.

"I am writing both to welcome you to Washington and to advise you how the Library of Congress can serve you as a new member of Congress," said the Librarian. "With 100 million items in some 450 languages, in formats ranging from manuscripts to computer programs, the Library of Congress is the nation's memory and the world's largest treasure house of human knowledge and creative expression."

Mr. Ross informed new members about the research, analysis and information products and services that CRS provides. From the date of their election, members-elect may take advantage of CRS services, including briefings on policy and legislative procedures.

On Dec. 7, Dr. Billington; Charlie Rose (D-N.C.), chairman of the House Administration Committee; and Bill Thomas (Calif.), ranking Republican of the committee, will cosponsor a dinner at the Library for members-elect and their spouses. Displays will be set up to familiarize attendees with LC's services to Congress and the nation.

Daniel P. Mulhollan, acting Deputy Librarian of Congress, as well as Dr. Billington and Mr. Ross, will give a briefing on the Library's services to Congress, including the Law Library, Copyright Office and Loan Division.

CRS has already sent invitations to new members for the Jan. 7–11 Williamsburg Conference. The conference is an intensive program that focuses on domestic and social issues such as health care, the economy and federal budget, foreign affairs and national defense. It is sponsored by CRS, the Brookings Institution and the American Enterprise Institute and funded through grants from the Henry Luce Foundation Inc., the Ford Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and others. A series of seminars for members only will deal with the legislative process and will begin later in January.

Congressional staff also receive orientation from CRS. The letter from Mr. Ross offered each new member's office a briefing on CRS and tips on the most effective way to use CRS in legislative matters. At the end of January, a special half-day program for new staff will provide an overview of Capitol Hill.

The 15th annual Public Policy Issues Institute (PPI) will be held in February. The PPI will span two weeks and offer 45 courses led by CRS analysts and specialists focusing on the major issues that Congress will confront during its first session.

A tour of the Library and luncheon for spouses of members-elect will be given Dec. 2., and an inuagural breakfast for all members and their families in the Library's Jefferson Building will give members a chance to view an exhibition of materials from the Vatican Library. LC will also hold working breakfast meetings in February and March to provide in-depth information about how members and their staffs can tap into the Library's unparalleled information sources, and a series of seminars on political and cultural subjects will be offered.

LC Sends Security Plan to Congress

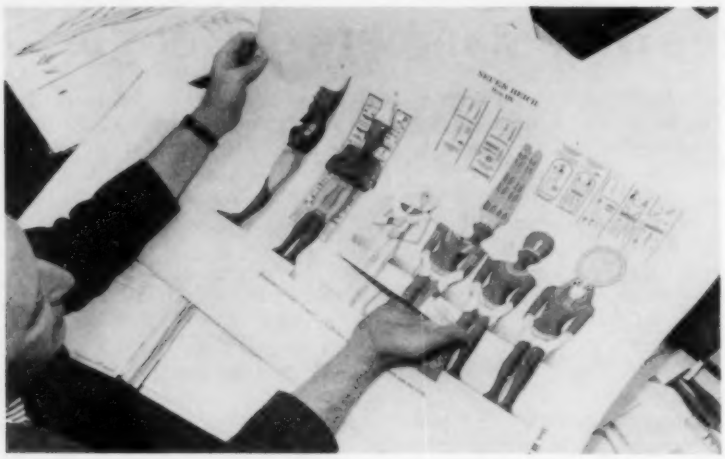
A three-year blueprint for enhancing security of the Library's collections was approved by Dr. Billington and the Library Management Team in October and forwarded to Congress's Joint Committee on the Library.

The Collections Security Oversight Committee, consisting of senior managers throughout the Library, drafted the detailed "Plan for Enhancing Collections Security." The plan spells out 46 initiatives, some of them already begun in mid-1992 and others to be phased in over a three-year period, through September 1995.

"The plan identifies and describes the initiatives, states the objectives that will be achieved, establishes a timetable for completion of the work, and to the extent that we can determine them at this point, identifies the resources we will need," said Michael Shelley of the Office of the Librarian. Mr. Shelley is responsible for administration and overview of the plan.

Some of the initiatives, such as those that can be implemented with current staff and other resources, can be accomplished with little or no cost. Others will require one-time or continuing funding; the Library may ask Congress for authorization to reprogram funds within its fiscal 1993 budget to meet the costs of the most urgent initiatives.

"The initiatives come from the Collections Security Oversight Committee members, who represent the service units and who know the collections and the vulnerability of the collections and of the buildings," said Suzanne Thorin, the Library chief of staff. "They also reflect a number of suggestions made by Library staff members. Information about the initiatives—what has to be done and under what deadlines—will flow back to the service units from the committee members.



New security measures are designed to prevent destruction such as this: A color print of seated figures from Abu Simbel, the site of Pharaoh Ramses II's memorial temples and monuments, from Lepsius's art-portfolio *Denkmaeler aus Aegypten und Aethiopen*, published in Berlin, 1949–56; a thief cut out the print on the preceding page, also ruining the print below with parallel slash marks. *Photo by Reid Baker*

"The committee is trying to be responsive to the concerns of the staff," Ms. Thorin added. For example, the committee is reviewing the criteria for issuing "swipe cards," which will open magnetic locks on doors to the stacks. "We want to ensure fairness, so that staff members who need regular stack access will receive individual swipe cards, and those who need only occasional access will be able to obtain a generic card easily," she said.

Mr. Shelley and the committee emphasized the importance of preserving the collections from the mutilation and theft that were occurring before the Library closed the stacks last spring. "The Library's collections are an important part of the heritage of our nation, one that will become lost to future generations if we do not respond to this threat immediately and vigorously," they said.

"I don't think it is an overstatement to say our collections are our treasures," Mr. Shelley said. "The treasures are at risk."

During the past two years, three thieves have been convicted of stealing from the collections, and a temporary staff member was arrested this summer for the theft of law materials. According to LC officials, it is clear that these arrests represent only the tip of the iceberg. Staff members continue to find instances of mutilation and theft of materials, such as the removal of color plates, illustrations and maps from irreplaceable 19th century books and journals, which were previously vulnerable in some reference areas and unlocked stacks.

Collections Management Division inventories have revealed decimated collections of cookbooks, auto repair

manuals, computer books, popular magazines and telephone and city directories, among other items. These materials may seem commonplace, plentiful, and therefore of little value. However, they soon become rare. One day—if they are protected—they will aid social historians wishing to learn about daily life in 20th century America.

"We have a special responsibility to preserve these publications, which tend to be discarded by public libraries and which are not often acquired by academic libraries," Mr. Shelley said. "We are the Library of last resort; people should be able to come here and find the materials they have located in our catalogs."

Mr. Shelley emphasized the staff's responsibility to guard the nation's memory and heritage. "The responsibility for protecting the collections, so they will be available years from now, must be exercised by everyone on the Library staff," he said.

"One of our initiatives is staff training, which will cover what those responsibilities are, what constitutes a threat to the collections and the rules and regulations governing the use and control of the collections," Mr. Shelley said.

He encourages staff to take their responsibility to heart. "We have had a staff member lately who has brought a number of physical problems to our attention, and I for one applaud him for that alertness," he said. "We have attempted to respond to reports from him and other persons as quickly as we can. I am encouraging the attitude that says, 'We have problems in safeguarding the collections, and these problems must be brought to the attention of officials.'"

The plan consists of six parts: security policy oversight; the collections themselves; collections storage and processing areas; reading rooms and adjacent areas; building entrances, exits and loading docks; and communications and publicity.

—*Gail Fineberg*

Bobbitt winners Louise Glück and Mark Strand met with Dr. Billington (far left) and Philip Bobbitt (far right) before the formal presentations. *Photo by Yusef El-Amin*

Poetic Justice:
Glück, Strand Accept Second Bobbitt Prize

The audience was clearly in agreement with the judges' choice the night of Oct. 29 as Louise Glück and Mark Strand were awarded the second Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry.

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington welcomed the winners and a Montpelier Room full of poetry aficionados. He then introduced Philip C. Bobbitt, the prize benefactor and son of Rebekah and O.P. Bobbitt.

"We who endow should be expressing our gratitude to the farsighted and brave Library administration and wise congressional leadership, without whose strong desire for success this award would not have been recognized or possible," said Philip Bobbitt.

Mr. Bobbitt then shifted the discussion to 1948, and a Library selection committee that included T.S. Eliot and Allen Tate. The committee awarded the Bollingen Prize to *Pisan Cantos* by Ezra Pound, who had been interned for his pro-fascist activities during the war and was indicted for treason.

The following year the Joint Congressional Committee on the Library of Congress forbade the Library to grant literary awards. That decision was reversed in 1988.

"Today we have a more dispassionate view of poetry, and fortunately we are utilizing the sacrifices of that generation," said Mr. Bobbitt, who introduced his father, O.P. Bobbitt.

"I am proud to say that this award is given on behalf of the country in which we live," he continued. "We are not a nation . . . sharing a common ethnic or linguistic background or even a religious unity. We are instead united by culture and culture alone. So this evening we strike a new coin."

Said Nancy Galbraith, head of the Library's Poetry and Literature Center: "It was a real pleasure to work shoulder-to-shoulder with Philip Bobbitt for several years on the ground rules for this national

Library School Dean Accepts LC Position

Deanna Marcum, dean since 1989 of Catholic University of America School of Library and Information Science in Washington, has been appointed director of Public Service and Collections Management I.

Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Collections Services, announced the appointment Oct. 28. Dr. Marcum will assume her position Jan. 4. She will be responsible for eight special collection and area studies divisions: African and Middle Eastern; Asian; Geography and Map; Manuscript; Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound; Music; Prints and Photographs; and Rare Book and Special Collections. These divisions collectively have custody of approximately 65 million items and serve 265,000 readers annually in 10 reading rooms.

Deanna Marcum

"I see my role as manager-coordinator-advocate," Dr. Marcum said. "I will make sure the needs of those responsible for the specialized collections are represented—for staffing, funding and program support of any kind."

As library school dean, she has read widely to keep up with advances in library and information science and technology and has watched with interest as LC goes through reorganizations and other changes.

"It seems to me the Library is trying to position itself for the next generation of library service. It is going through lots of changes, but they all seem future-directed," she said.

Dr. Marcum received her Ph.D. in American studies from the University of Maryland in 1991; she earned her master's degree in library science from the University of Kentucky in 1971, a master's degree in English from Southern Illinois University in 1969, and a bachelor's degree in comparative literature from the University of Illinois in 1967.

Bobbitt *(Cont. from p. 501)*
literary event. I was extremely proud to have been his associate in getting this started."

Prosser Gifford, director of Scholarly Programs at the Library, made the formal presentations to the winning poets.

Following her introduction, Louise Glück advised the audience to read her prize-winning *Ararat* from cover to cover during one sitting, as "a continuous voice shapes the whole throughout." Ms. Glück's sonorous voice intensified the somberness and desperation in the poetry she read for the audience.

When Mark Strand, former Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry at the Library, stepped up to the microphone, it had to be adjusted to accommodate his height. Before reading, Mr. Strand compared himself to Philip Bobbitt's parents, who met in the LC stacks. He said he had met his wife-to-be (Jules) in a bookstore, where she worked behind a cash register.

During the reception, Dr. Billington has a word with O.P. Bobbitt (seated) and son Philip. *Photo by Yusef El-Amin*

He then read from his prize-winning *The Continuous Life* the poem "Velocity Meadows," written after leafing through a book of van Gogh reproductions.

"I am just delighted that the award ceremonies are going to continue," said O.P. Bobbitt. "It is a good program and I'm glad that we could participate. It's even more special for me, as you probably may know, because I met my wife—Philip's mother—right here. There's a lot of poetry and romance in that. I hope to see you next time, in 1994."

—*John Sullivan*

The Coca-Cola Girl:
Subject of Poster Donates Collection to LC

It all started with a letter of complaint to the Copyright Office in March 1991.

Rebel Randall, former model, actress and radio talk show hostess, wrote to determine whether her rights had been violated by the use of her image in a 1939 Coca-Cola poster on the cover of a 1991 book on advertising published by Harry N. Abrams Inc.

She addressed her letter to Frank Evina, senior copyright information specialist, because his name was mentioned in the introduction to the book. Written by longtime (now retired) Library employee Charles Goodrum, and this writer, Helen Dalrymple (a public affairs specialist currently on detail to the Congressional Services Team), *Advertising in America: The First 200 Years* drew heavily on the collections of the Library. Mr. Evina had been very helpful in guiding the two authors to unique 19th and early 20th century visual materials acquired by the Library through copyright deposit.

Rebel Randall in a current photo; Elena Zahirpour of Exchange and Gift, Elena Millie of Prints and Photographs, Frank Evina of Copyright and Irene Burnham of Interpretive Programs take a minute to enjoy some of the items donated by Ms. Randall. *Photo by Reid Baker*

"The Coca-Cola Girl on the cover is myself," wrote Ms. Randall, "from a painting by Haddon Sundblum. In 1938 I signed releases for the reproduction of this (and four more Coca-Cola Ads painted by Sundblum that I know of). . . . However, those releases, signed for J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency in Chicago, Illinois, I believe are now extinct, insofar as they would have expired in fifty years; as I understand our Copyright Laws."

She asked, "Could you please advise me as to the status of this (and the other) Coca-Cola Ads of mine, relative to U.S. Copyright Law. No one asked my permission to reproduce my CC ad on the cover of this book; or the full bill-board copy at page 92."

Mr. Evina called Ms. Dalrymple and Mr. Goodrum to tell them of the letter he had received, and they were delighted to learn that there was a real person associated with the Coca-Cola poster that had been selected by the publisher for the cover of their book. "You mean she really exists?" asked Mr. Goodrum. "That's wonderful!"

Over the course of the next few months, Mr. Evina had a number of telephone conversations with Rebel Randall, who now lives in Cathedral City, Calif. She is still active in philanthropic organizations (she founded Women United International, which aids women and children) and in acting for film and television. She was selected as the Coca-Cola girl while she was still in high school in Chicago, and she later worked in radio and television in both Hollywood and New York.

During World War II, Ms. Randall participated in special event air shows for the Army and Navy and

toured military installations, making one personal appearance with Bob Hope. During the Korean War, she was the hostess of the CBS radio show "America Calling," arranging telephone calls from GIs all over the world to their families and sweethearts at home. And in 1958 she was voted "the most beautiful girl in television" by *TV Guide*.

Although Mr. Evina had to explain to Ms. Randall that the copyright laws did not apply to the use of the poster on the cover of the advertising book (which had been cleared by the publisher with Coca-Cola), he ended up making a friend of her just the same. She spoke with Mr. Goodrum as well, and he sent her his personal copy of the promotional poster for the book, which was essentially a reproduction of the book jacket.

Through her contact with Mr. Evina and the Library of Congress, Ms. Randall realized that the Library would be the perfect place to house her personal collection of posters on a permanent basis. She wrote again to Mr. Evina and asked whether the Library would be interested in receiving as a gift the original 24-sheet billboard poster of the Coca-Cola poster that appears on the cover of the book.

"It certainly must be the only one in existence because I know Archives at Coca-Cola does not have it," she said in her letter.

Ms. Randall also offered the Library a number of other posters and memorabilia from projects with which she had been associated (she was the model for the first Doublemint Twins poster and the Jantzen bathing suit girl).

The details of the gift were worked out between the Exchange and Gift Division and the curator of posters, Elena Millie, of the Prints and Photographs Division, and the collection arrived at the Library last spring.

"We had a lot of fun with this one," remarked Gift Acquisition Specialist Elena Zahirpour. "Rebel Randall is a very lively and interesting person to work with."

Irene Burnham, head of the Interpretive Programs Office, now hopes to use the Randall gift posters as a centerpiece of an exhibition on advertising art she is planning for 1995. "It's such a colorful collection," said Ms. Burnham. "I think people will be surprised at the broad range of art that the Library has in its collections."

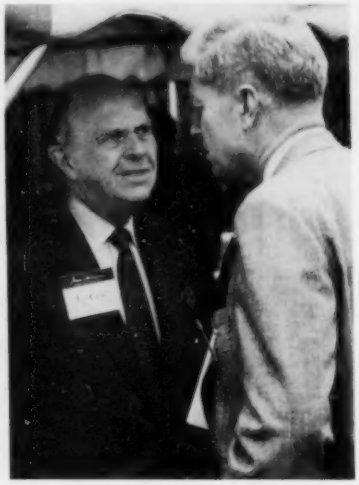
The donation will complement a rich store of advertising materials in the Library, many of them acquired through copyright deposit, which are housed in the Prints and Photographs Division, Rare Book and Special Collections Division, and other divisions of the Library.

Gifts come to the Library in many different ways, although this case is probably one of the more unusual, triggered as it was by an initial complaint.

Frank Evina had the last word. "Best of all," he said, "I've made a friend; I can't wait for Rebel Randall to visit the Library!"

—Helen Dalrymple

Madison Council Votes Funds For LC Projects for Second Year



Ed Cox and Dr. Billington discuss Madison Council activities during a recent meeting.

The James Madison Council voted in October for the expenditure of a record sum of $743,000 from its membership fees to fund a variety of Library projects and products in 1993, almost 2½ times what the council approved at its October 1991 meeting.

The private-sector national advisory body was created by Librarian James H. Billington in 1990 to foster awareness of and support for the Library of Congress. The 75-member Madison Council, with representatives from the corporate, business, philanthropic, advertising and media worlds, is chaired by John W. Kluge, president of Metromedia Co.

The Executive Committee of the council recommended seven projects to the full membership, after reviewing a much larger proposed list submitted by the Library's service units. Library staff members explained the projects to the Madisonians during their morning meeting on Oct. 21. Following are the projects, which reflect the great variety of Library activities and collections:

☐ **"1492: An Ongoing Voyage" Traveling Exhibit.** Madison Council funds of $175,000 would assist in the creation of a traveling version of the "1492" exhibition now on view in the Madison Gallery. They would cover the cost of modifying the exhibit for travel, for printing exhibit brochures and catalogs, and would also provide for insurance and shipping.

Access to Library Information Files Available on Internet

Files with information about and from the Library of Congress are now accessible through the Internet.

They are available via anonymous ftp at seq1.loc.gov (note this address is "S-E-Q-one period L-O-C period G-O-V"). The files are found in the /pub/Library.of.Congress directory and sub-directories. Several files help with system navigation:

☐ README gives a brief description of the project and its conventions.

☐ INDEX provides a broad overview with brief descriptions of available files and a description of the overall file structure.

☐ README.LC provides an introduction to the Library and its services. Please access these files first in order to more easily find the information of interest to you.

If you are unfamiliar with anonymous ftp, ask someone on your home system how to use the protocol. Once you are in ftp, type **?** for a list of possible commands. Many of them may seem cryptic, so talk to someone who knows what they mean.

☐ **get** is how you transfer a file from the computer you are visiting (the "remote") to your own computer (the "local"). The files in the Library of Congress area are stored as ASCII, so you can transfer them in the text mode, which is the default when you first log on.

☐ For program or image files, before you transfer the file, give the command **binary** to change the mode. It will stay in that mode until you change it back using the command **ascii.**

☐ To go up and down directory levels, use **cd**—change directory. Put the name of the subdirectory after it to go down a level, or type **cd ..** to go up a level.

☐ To exit type **quit.**

NOTE: The service does not provide access to the Library's bibliographic data bases nor is it equipped to answer reference inquiries.

Madison Council *(Cont. from p. 504)*

☐ **The Jefferson Legacy/LC Bicentennial Decade.** From 1993 until 2000, the Library will celebrate a number of milestones, including the 250th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson in 1993, the reopening of the Jefferson Building (1995) and its centennial (1997) and finally the bicentennial of the Library of Congress in the year 2000. The private monies will be used to pay for an exhibit of key items from Jefferson's library in commemoration of the anniversary of Jefferson's birth in April-May 1993 ($75,000), as well as a new illustrated guide to the inscriptions on the walls of the Jefferson, Adams and Madison buildings ($25,000).

☐ **"Persistence of Vision: The Centennial of American Film" catalog.** A major exhibition celebrating the centennial of film will open at the Library in October 1993. The exhibit catalog will be paid for with $75,000 from the Madison Council.

☐ **Survey of Knowledge Program.** Five senior fellows, each of whom will receive a stipend of $30,000 from the Madison Council, will be brought to the Library in 1993 to conduct research and to survey and evaluate the Library's collections in the scholars' specialized subject areas. The scholars will make recommendations for the acquisition, preservation and organization of resources in these areas, thus helping to publicize the collections and improve both their content and accessibility.

☐ **Center for American Architecture.** The Madison Council voted $58,000 for a one-year start-up grant for the Library's proposed Center for American Architecture, Design and Engineering. The establishment of the center will be announced next year, and its inaugural exhibition on the U.S. Capitol will open in September 1993.

☐ **Conservation Outreach Initiative.** The Library's Conservation Office has been preeminent in the field of library conservation for more than 20 years. To enable Library staff to reach out to other institutions as well as to keep up with the latest developments and techniques in the field, Madison Council funds ($10,000 in 1993) will be used to allow representation by Library conservation experts at all major professional meetings, workshops and seminars; for short-term internships for senior conservators at sister institutions; and to bring in guest lecturers in cutting-edge conservation techniques.

☐ **Special Acquisition for the Library's 100 Millionth Item.** The Madison Council made a four-year commitment to purchase a very special American collection to commemorate the Library's acquisition of its "100 millionth item." The purchase will be made in four installments, with $125,000 to be expended in 1993. The Library will announce the details of the acquisition in April 1993.

☐ **Librarian's Discretionary Fund.** Finally, the Madison Council, at the recommendation of its Steering Committee, which is chaired by Edwin L. Cox, voted to provide the Librarian with a discretionary fund of $50,000, with which he will be able to fund special activities or projects in 1993 for which regularly appropriated public funds are neither available nor appropriate.

—Helen Dalrymple

LC Staffer Visits North Korea:
Establishes New Exchange Program

On a recent trip overseas, an assistant chief in the Law Library became the first LC staff member to make an official visit to North Korea since the formal establishment of North Korea in 1948.

Sung Yoon Cho, assistant chief of the Far Eastern Law Division, went to Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), July 21–Aug. 1. This visit, the first by a Library official, is not only a remarkable event in and of itself, but has also resulted in a groundbreaking new exchange-of-publications program between the Library of Congress and North Korean institutions. The exchange will cover all materials, legal as well as nonlegal.

While in North Korea, Dr. Cho met with two officers from the Korean Publications Exchange Association (KPEA), a state-run clearinghouse handling the export of North Korean publications in both vernacular and foreign languages. Yong-mun Kim, deputy chief of the U.S. Bureau of the KPEA, told Dr. Cho that his organization was sending materials to some 160 foreign institutions but had not known how to approach the Library of Congress. He was eager to take advantage of Dr. Cho's trip to Pyongyang to establish an international exchange arrangement with LC.

Dr. Cho explained in detail LC's international exchange programs with other countries and requested lists of international exchange items, as well as items for purchase, on which the author, title, publisher, year of publication, pagination and price of each item were listed. Mr. Kim promised to bring by some sample lists.

In fact, the next day, he presented a handwritten, 120-page list of publications containing about 2,500 items and said that his staff was continuing to work on a list of about 5,000 items that Dr. Cho could take back to the United States. Later in the week, he asked Dr. Cho to return the handwritten publications list, promising to bring by the final longer printed list instead.

The lobby of the Grand People's Study House

He never reappeared, however, nor did he manage to bring the list to Dr. Cho before his departure from North Korea. Happily, Dr. Cho has recently received a letter from Mr. Kim responding favorably to LC's proposal to establish an exchange-of-publications program and promising to send a selected list of his company's publications, consisting of items for exchange and purchase.

Sung Yoon Cho, who traveled to North Korea to establish an exchange.

Dr. Cho also visited the national central library, known as the Grand People's Study House, which combines the former national and central libraries. Opened in 1982, it is a gigantic five-story building in the center of Pyongyang City. The Study House has been LC's only exchange partner in North Korea, and in the past that exchange has been limited.

Kuk Lee, director of the International Exchange Department, expressed great interest in expanding international exchange arrangements with LC, emphasizing that in particular his library would like to receive U.S. publications on the modernization of library facilities. Dr. Cho, for his part, stressed that LC would like to have a full-scale exchange of materials. Mr. Lee replied that he would fully cooperate with LC and in early October he sent an updated exchange list to LC's Exchange and Gift Division.

An Immigrant Composer Who Loved America:

Irving Berlin Collection Highlights An Era

by Lucy D. Suddreth

As a symbol of the vastness of the Irving Berlin Collection, the Library was presented during an Oct. 2 news conference with the lyric sheets and manuscripts for "God Bless America," written in 1938. *Photos by Jim Higgins*

With the Library's acquisition of the Irving Berlin Collection, the public will soon have a chance to learn more about an immigrant composer who loved being an American.

"Father believed that only in America would he be able to achieve all that he wanted," said Elizabeth Irving Peters, youngest daughter of Berlin, in a telephone interview.

"It is fitting that the Library of Congress should be the repository of the papers of this songwriter whose music has become so much a part of American life," said Raymond White, music specialist in the Music Division and curator of the collection. "The collection is quite extraordinary, not only because of Berlin's importance in American popular culture, but also because of its size and richness and the fact that it has previously been unavailable for research."

Berlin was known to have been protective of his work. Although most composers enter into agreements with publishing houses for the distribution of their material, Berlin formed his own publishing company, in 1914. The Irving Berlin Music Co. is still in operation today as a rights and licensing agency, administered by Rodgers & Hammerstein, a publishing company in New York.

"The popularity of Berlin's music is nothing short of phenomenal. His name has become a household word. Two songs alone could assure his lasting fame: 'God Bless America,' often characterized as an unofficial national anthem, and 'White Christmas,' the best-selling song of all time," said Mr. White.

The collection contains about 750,000 items—one of the largest in the division. There are librettos, music manuscripts, printed music, lyric sheets, financial and legal documents, programs, photographs and scrapbooks. One of the more unusual aspects of the collection is that it contains significant materials on three aspects of popular music in the 20th century: composing, publishing and producing, said Mark

A Gift of Music

James Pruett, Music Division chief, discusses the legacy of Irving Berlin with his daughters (from left) Linda Louise Emmet, Mary Ellin Barrett and Elizabeth Irving Peters.

The Library of Congress has added yet another treasure to its American popular music and theater collection.

On Oct. 2, in a special ceremony, the Irving Berlin Collection documenting more than 80 years of the life and work of this quintessentially American songwriter, was presented to the Library.

"We believe that this is what Father would have wanted and he would be very happy to know what is going on today," said Mary Ellin Barrett, eldest daughter of Irving Berlin. Ms. Barrett was joined by sisters Linda Louise Emmet and Elizabeth Irving Peters as they presented the "God Bless America" manuscripts and lyric sheets to the Librarian.

"This song is a symbol of a vast total of Father's materials," Ms. Barrett added.

"The life of Irving Berlin is the stuff of which legends are made. Not only is his life a classic American success story, but during his long and remarkable career he wrote songs that have been called 'the musical conscience of the United States.' We salute his work and, no less, his great service to this country," said Dr. Billington.

Irving Berlin was born Israel Baline in a small Russian village on May 11, 1888. In 1893 he came to New York with his family. As a youngster Israel took odd jobs to help support the family. His employment history included hawking newspapers and working as a singing waiter in a Chinatown cafe.

In 1907 he wrote the lyric for his first published song, "Marie from Sunny Italy." A printer's error on the song's cover gave him the name "Berlin"; he apparently chose the name "Irving."

Even as a teenager, Berlin displayed uncommon business acumen. At 19 he realized that his success in the music industry would depend on his ability to write music as well as lyrics. But this was no easy task for someone who lacked formal musical training. "To my knowledge Father never took up formal training on the piano. He had an incredible ability to put all the notes together in his head," recalled Ms. Emmet.

In 1911 Irving Berlin first received international recognition with his song "Alexander's Ragtime Band."

During the next six decades Berlin wrote the scores for 18 stage shows, including "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Call Me Madam," as well as 16 film musicals, including "Top Hat," "Holiday Inn" and "Easter Parade."

Irving Berlin died in New York on Sept. 22, 1989, at the age of 101.

The prized collection represents a significant gathering of music materials (both printed and manuscript), including lyric sheets and scripts, as well as financial documents such as sales books, receipts, account books and royalty statements, correspondence, photographs, scrapbooks and other materials relating to the composer. The diversity of the collection and the contents combine to make it an extremely rich acquisition.

Among the music items in the collection are full scores and piano-vocal scores of individual songs and complete shows, many in manuscript with revisions and emendations.

"Scholars are always interested to see evidence of the creative process and the music materials in the Berlin Collection provide a wealth of such information," said Raymond White, music specialist in the Music Division and curator of the collection. A score of "Alexander's Ragtime Band" in a copyist's hand (composers would give their final version to copyists who would then copy the song in longhand) possibly

was the composer's own copy; many other manuscripts were probably also Berlin's personal copies.

Among the legal documents in the collection are Berlin's naturalization papers (he became a U.S. citizen in 1918) and his commission and discharge papers from the U.S. armed services.

A set of 42 scrapbooks documents Berlin's life and career from 1911 until his death in 1989. They contain newspaper and journal clippings and articles, advertisements, press releases and other publicity material. Some scrapbooks are devoted to a single work or show, while others deal with particular periods of Berlin's life.

"The characterizations of Berlin's music that keep coming to mind are breadth, universality and durability," said James Pruett, chief of the Music Division.

There was a brief audio and film presentation produced by the Library for the ceremony that highlighted such Berlin classics as "Always," "White Christmas," "Let's Face the Music and Dance," "Top Hat, White Tie and Tails," "Oh, How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning" and "God Bless America."

A display of items selected from the collection was mounted for the press conference outside of the Mary Pickford Theater in the Madison Building.

The Irving Berlin Collection will be in good company with the already acquired collections of George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, Jerome Kern, Vernon Duke, Victor Herbert, Sigmund Romberg, Cole Porter, Harold Rome, Leonard Bernstein, lyricists Ira Gershwin and Oscar Hammerstein, and orchestrators Robert Russell Bennett and Hans Spialek.

—Lucy D. Suddreth

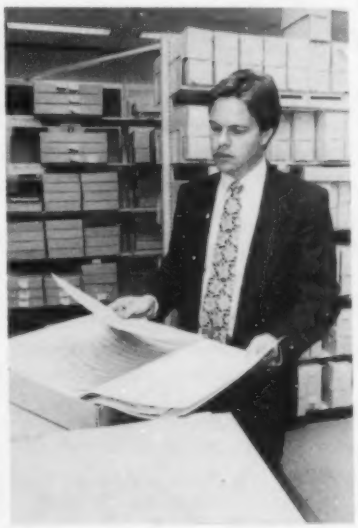
Berlin *(Cont. from p. 507)*

Horowitz, music specialist in the Music Division.

"Irving Berlin was not only a prolific composer, registering more than 900 songs with the U.S. Copyright Office", he continued, "his active career spanned seven decades. "The fact that he owned a music publishing company and the fact that he built his own music theater [the Music Box in New York] combines to give us a collection that represents the American music industry in a way no other collection could."

"Because the documentary legacy of Berlin was kept intact, there had been speculation about the eventual disposal of his papers. During the latter years of his life the Library expressed an interest in receiving the collection," said Mr. White.

Having one's paper legacy in the national library is appealing for a number of reasons. Along with being the world's largest library, LC is one of the very few institutions with the specialized resources for maintaining such collections.



Raymond White, music specialist and curator of the Berlin Collection, examines musical material that will be available to researchers in 1993.

"The Library has staff with expertise in handling the processing, physical arrangement, preservation and restoration of archival materials. The staff of the Music Division's Acquisitions & Processing Section receives assistance from the Conservation Office as well as the preservation microfilming program. We also have facilities where scholars and performers can study the wealth of information that the collection will reveal," said Mr. White.

"We knew that Father's papers would get the terrific custodial care that the Library of Congress is known for," said Mary Ellin Barrett, eldest daughter of Irving Berlin, in a telephone interview.

The Music Division houses various other renowned collections as well, including those of George and Ira Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein and Vernon Duke. There are also significant holdings of Cole Porter, Harold Rome and Leonard Bernstein.

The Library is one of the preeminent repositories for American musicals and popular music published during the century. Other items available to researchers are the vast collection of manuscript and printed scores, sheet music and librettos in the Music Division as well as related holdings such as correspondence, scrapbooks, photographs and published materials in the Manuscript and Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound divisions.

"We find that each special collection in American popular music provides us with insight into the work of not only the principal composer or lyricist of the collection but also other significant figures in music. For example, the work of orchestrator Robert Russell Bennett, already represented in the Library's Kern, Gershwin and Rodgers collections, is now documented by manuscripts in the Berlin Collection, most notably his orchestrations for 'Annie Get

Your Gun.' Such relationsips add enormously to the opportunities for scholarship and research that our special collections provide," said Mr. Horowitz.

The Irving Berlin Collection was formally presented to the Library by his three daughters during an Oct. 2 news conference (see page 508).

"I think it is absolutely wonderful that the papers are at the Library of Congress. Father would have wanted his work to be given to the American people. He so loved this country," said Ms. Barrett.

Musical conference: Mark Horowitz, music specialist; Rodney Todd, library technician; Elizabeth Auman, donor relations officer; and Joel Sorensen, supervisory technician, discuss the processing of items from the Berlin Collection.

Processing 750,000 Items. As curator, Raymond White has the task of overseeing the sorting and processing of this very large collection. He is charged with the decisions about how the collection will be organized—hierarchical, alphabetical or chronological—and whether to integrate the show music with the popular music. He also makes the decisions about which items to process first and how to prepare the collection to best serve the public. Processing a special collection begins with the formulation of an organizational plan, based on the nature and quantity of the materials and the uses for them that the division's staff foresees.

"The collection is so large it must be handled in segments," said Mr. White. "We have already begun to organize the manuscript and printed materials in the collection. When that is completed, we will focus on the business records of Berlin's music company. We will prepare a guide to the collection to assist researchers in identifying specific items. Finally, there will be an online collection-level catalog record to describe the collection and highlight some of its most important features."

The curator often establishes a relationship with the living donor. Betty Auman, donor relations officer in the Music Division, said, "Donors tend to call on the curator whenever they have an inquiry about the collection."

Richness of the Berlin Collection. "I think somehow that Irving Berlin, the lyricist, has not gotten the recognition due him. In the pantheon of American composers of popular music in the first half of this century, only Berlin and Porter were both composer and lyricist," said Mr. Horowitz.

"Indeed, Berlin wrote virtually all of his own lyrics," added Mr. White. The collection shows that it did not matter what he had to write on when he was so inspired. There are lyrics that were written on the backs of envelopes and hotel stationery.

"Berlin's lyric sheets reveal his mind at work," said Mr. Horowitz. "There are pages and pages of lyric sketches for 'Annie Get Your Gun.' They show the evolution of a lyric from initial concept to final form, until the wording was clear and pungent."

"Father was somewhat of a perfectionist and did not want to release a song until he was certain that it was just right," said Ms. Peters.

"I think one reason that the lyric sheets stand out so in the collection is because they are where one sees Berlin putting pen to paper," said Mr. White. "Apparently, Berlin did not actually write down his own melodies. He would devise them in his head or work them out at the piano and then a musical secretary would write them down. Sometimes Berlin would revise a song, thus producing the various versions of some of the songs present in the collection. Although there is less 'sketch' and 'draft' material than in other similar collections, still there is a wealth of information to reveal what is undoubtedly a unique compositional process in American popular music."

"There are also things in the collection that are entertaining, romantic, even cute," Mr. White added. "There is Berlin's 1925 song 'Always,' which he gave to his wife as a wedding gift." It is autographed "To Ellin from Irving."

The collection also has some unique Americana. During World War II, Berlin's musical revue "This Is the Army" toured the world for more than a year. Enclosed in part books used by the musicians are notes about their experiences,

poetry written to wives back home and caricatures of things going on around them. "For a scholar, this kind of material is exceptional, providing unique insights," said Mr. Horowitz.

The Man and His Legacy. "Irving Berlin strikes me more than any other major musical figure as somebody who approached his work as a job," said Mr. Horowitz.

"His ability is almost inexplicable," he continued. "The fact that he was such a good composer and a good lyricist, given his background and lack of formal education, is truly astonishing. By logic, Irving Berlin's career should not have happened. However, he possessed such innate talent, drive and determination that I can think of no one who surpasses him.

"I believe that what set Irving Berlin apart was the way he approached his songs," Mr. Horowitz. added. "While many of his contemporaries wrote for themselves, Berlin wrote for his audience—What is universal? What do people want to hear? What will touch them? What is the simplest, clearest way that I can have an emotional impact on people? That, I think, was his genius."

The Music Division plans to have the musical material from the collection available to the public in 1993. The correspondence, business records, photos and other items will be available later. The division also plans to mount an exhibit devoted to the American musical theater, which will draw heavily on the Berlin Collection.

A selection of Irving Berlin songs that helped make his name a household word include "Always" (1925), "White Christmas" (1942), "Puttin' on the Ritz" (1928), "There's No Business Like Show Business" (1946) and "Heat Wave" (1933); Auman and Horowitz review Berlin's lyric sheets from the musical "Annie Get Your Gun."

German Government to Sponsor Exhibit on Geographer Kohl

Rainer Ortleb, minister of education and science in the Federal Republic of Germany, and Hans R. Friedrich, assistant secretary of state for higher education and science policy, visited the Library on Oct. 22. Dr. Ortleb is originally from the former German Democratic Republic (East Germany) and is the first German holding a Cabinet-level position to visit the Library. Gudrun Luecke-Hogaust, recently appointed cultural counselor at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Washington, was also in attendance.

They were received by Dr. Billington and given an overview of materials to be included in the upcoming Johann Georg Kohl exhibition by Ralph Ehrenberg, chief of the Geography and Map Division. Johann Georg Kohl was a noted German cartographer, many of whose works are in the Library's collections.

They were particularly interested in "In Praise of Music: Treasures from Six Centuries of German Music History," an LC exhibit that was part of the German Music Festival and sponsored by the German government.

They also were given a tour of "1492: An Ongoing Voyage," the Library's exhibit commemorating the Columbus quincentenary, by John Hébert, coordinator of the Columbus Quincentenary Program. Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist in the European Division, gave an overview of the German collections and German programs at the Library.

The life of Johann Georg Kohl (1808–1878) can be divided into four periods. The first extends from his birth in Bremen to the publication of his first major work in theoretical geography in 1841. The second period begins with his first travel book, also published in 1841, and ends with his departure for the United States in 1854. The third and most significant period, from an American perspective, spans the years 1854–1858, when he was in the United States. The last and equally important period, from 1859 until his death 19 years later, includes several of his most significant publications, among them the elaborate edition of the Diego Ribera world map of 1529, published in 1860, and his superb *History of the Discovery of the East Coast of North America, Particularly the Coast of Maine . . .*, published as the first volume of a *Documentary History of Maine* in 1869.

The Johann Georg Kohl exhibit opens March 24.

Ralph Ehrenberg, Geography and Map Division chief (left); Dr. Billington (second from left); and Margrit B. Krewson, German/Dutch area specialist (fourth from left), hosted Rainer Ortleb, German minister of education and science; Gudrun Luecke-Hogaust, German cultural counselor; and Hans R. Friedrich, German assistant secretary of state, on Oct. 22. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Austrian Author Reads for LC Archive on Tape

On Oct. 23 Austrian author Gloria Kaiser read for the Library's Archive of World Literature. Ms. Kaiser, a visiting scholar in the European Division, read from her two most current works, *Oktoberfrühling* (*Spring in October*) (Graz: 1991) and *Ein Opfer ohne Bedeutung* (*A Sacrifice Without Meaning*) (Graz: 1990).

Ms. Kaiser is also the author of short stories, and her plays have been performed on Austrian and German radio. Her works have been favorably reviewed in *Die Presse*, *Kleine Zeitung* and *Neue Zeit*. She has also won prestigious literary awards from such organizations as the Buchebner-Gesellschaft and the Kammer Arbeiter und Angestellte as well as the Jugend- und Kulturliteratur prize and the literary prize of the city of Graz, Austria.

Ms. Kaiser is currently researching the exile literature of Austrian author Stefan Zweig, who, during World War II spent several years in self-imposed exile in England, the United States and Brazil. Her inter-

LC Receives Gift from Bar Ilan University:
Responsa *Data Base Has Over 47,000 Legal Decisions*

During a gathering in Dr. Billington's office this past summer, Ya'akov Aronson, university librarian of Bar Ilan University in Israel, presented the Library with a new full-text CD-ROM data base released by Bar Ilan last spring.

The data base, *The Responsa Project*, contains more than 47,000 Rabbinic responsa (legal decisions) issued over the past 1,000 years in countries in all parts of the world. These Hebrew responsa deal with all aspects of Jewish life and customs, and are an excellent source of historical information.

In addition to the responsa, the data base includes the full Hebrew texts of the Old Testament, the Babylonian and Jerusalem Talmuds and Moses Maimonides' code, *Mishnah Torah*.

During the gathering, Dr. Billington noted the longstanding and fruitful exchange relationship between the Library of Congress and Bar Ilan's Wurzweiler Central Library. Valerie Mwalilino, coordinator of the African/Middle Eastern Acquisitions Section, noted how Bar Ilan's exchange unit, headed by Batya Malik, can be relied on for anything from election campaign materials to a prepublication copy of an Israel Supreme Court decision requested by the Law Library.

Ya'akov Aronson of Bar Ilan presents the *Responsa* data base disc to Dr. Billington (right) and Valeria Mwalilino of the African/Middle Eastern Acquisitions Section and Michael Grunberger, Hebraic Section head. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

In addition, Mr. Aronson presented Dr. Billington with a medallion minted in honor of Bar Ilan University and provided the Hebraic Section with a copy of the Bar Ilan Central Library's newly released publication *Hebrew Subject Headings* in two volumes. Modeled on the *Library of Congress Subject Headings*, Bar Ilan's publication, which emphasizes Judaic and Israeli topics, simplifies subject access to materials for Hebrew speakers.

Kaiser *(Cont. from p. 512)*

est in this subject stems from her role as founder of the Kulturinitiative Österreich-Brasilien (Iniciativa Cultural Austro-Brasileira), an organization that explores the cultural relations between Austria and Brazil. Her novel *Oktoberfrühling* has been translated into Portuguese and will be released in Brazil in 1993.

Ms. Kaiser will assist Iêda Siqueira Wiarda, Luso-Brazilian specialist in the Hispanic Division. She has also agreed to read from her works at the Library's German Language Table and at the Embassy of Austria.

Gloria Kaiser

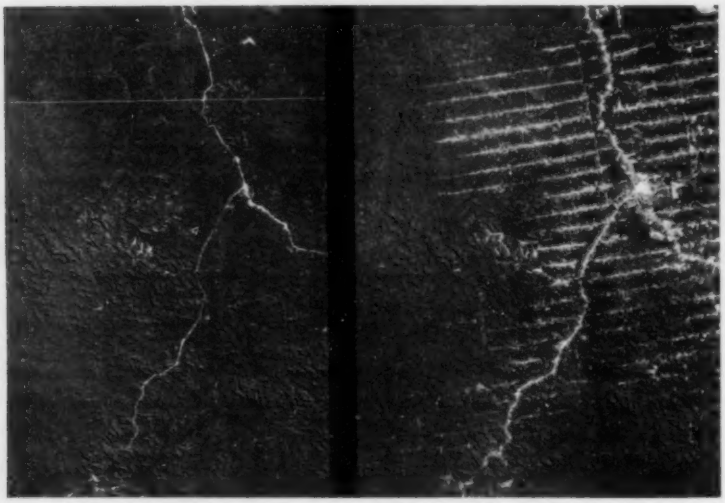
ATTENTION LC RETIREES

On Tuesday, Dec. 22, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington will welcome LC retirees back to the Library for the traditional holiday festivities. The day's activities will begin at 11 a.m. with a Holiday Program in the Madison Foyer, James Madison Memorial Building, and will be followed by a luncheon at noon for retired staff members only in the Montpelier Room, sixth floor, Madison Building.

Invitations were mailed to retirees the week of Nov. 23 If you are an LC retiree and have not received your invitation, call the Special Events Office at (202) 707-1616.

History of Aerial Photography Traced in Exhibit:

Landsat Program's 20th Anniversary Celebrated



The Landsat image on the left was taken June 19, 1975; the one on the right, Aug. 1, 1986. The parallel lines are evidence of the slash-and-burn techniques used in the harvesting of the Brazilian rain forest.

The Library's Geography and Map Division will mount a display called "Landsat: Monitoring Earth's Environment."

The exhibit traces some of the fascinating history of aerial photography and demonstrates various perspectives of Earth as seen from above. Forty satellite images of Earth will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the American Landsat program.

Since 1972 five Landsat satellites have circled Earth from distances of 430 to 570 miles, collecting a huge digital data base of imagery useful for monitoring Earth's environment and global change.

The stunning computer-generated images on display not only capture the drama of a dynamic Earth but also provide scientists with unique data for terrain analysis, crop assessment, mineral exploration, disaster assessment and relief, habitat preservation, forestry management and archaeological investigations. In evidence are a number of photographs of such areas as the Strait of Gibraltar, the Brazilian rain forest and a number of one-time sequence shots showing the densities of population growth in some well-known large cities.

The exhibit opens Dec. 17 in the basement level of the Madison Building, outside the Geography and Map Division offices; it will remain on view through June 20, 1993. For more information call (202) 707-8530.

CDMARC Serials Published by Library

CDMARC Serials—the complete CONSER data base on CD-ROM—is now available from the Cataloging Distribution Service of the Library. The file of approximately 600,000 top-quality serial records includes contributions from the U.S. Newspaper Program. The majority of records are full-level cataloging with LC call numbers and subject headings. This new one-disc product is fully cumulated and issued quarterly (three issues only for the 1992 subscription year.)

CDMARC Serials features 16 search and 14 browse indexes, including LC and Dewey classification numbers. The search function allows users to search individual words or phrases; it includes Boolean searching and has no stopwords. The browse function allows users to scroll through the indexes similar to the way a search is conducted in a print index. Users can view citations in five display formats: catalog card image, MARC tagged, labeled, custom labeled or custom tagged. Records can be saved in DOS format for word processing or by exporting them in full USMARC Communications format for use in an automated data base.

A reference manual, quick reference guide, keyboard template, binder, and installation and retrieval software are included. The 1992 subscription to *CDMARC Serials* costs $330 (North America) or $360 (outside North America). Order directly from: Library of Congress, Customer Services Section, Cataloging Distribution Service/Dept. AD, Washington, DC 20541-5017; telephone: (800) 255-3666 (U.S. only) or (202) 707-6100; fax: (202) 707-1334.

From LC to You—All Year Long

The Library's collections have again yielded a bountiful harvest of cooperatively published calendars to delight the eye and stimulate the mind for the coming year. Wall calendars illuminate subjects from engineering to history-making women to playing cards, while two engagement calendars highlight gems of children's literature and the world of literature in general. And an all-new pocket datebook provides a unique combination of convenience and enjoyment of the Library's music collections.

Wall calendar titles (clockwise, from top left) include:

☐ **The Civil War**—Second in a series, featuring more than 50 full-color and duotone illustrations, 20 to 30 historical entries for each month, and running excerpts of letters of two soldiers, one a lieutenant in the Union navy and one a Confederate general. (12 x 12" [opens to 12 x 24"]; $11.95)

☐ **The Art of Engineering**—A rich celebration of both technological accomplishment and its graphic representation, featuring 24 color drawings from the Library's prints and photographs and rare book collections, with interpretive text by the curator of the Library's architecture, design and engineering collections. (14 x 16" [opens to 14 x 28"]; $13.95)

☐ **Hey! Diddle Diddle: Children's Classics**—Featuring 13 full-color illustrations and text, ranging from Mother Goose to contemporary retellings of African folk tales, from the Library's children's literature collections. (12 x 12"; $10.95)

☐ **Flight Before Wright**—A collection of photographs, patent drawings and oddities from the hotbed of aviation invention and experimentation that marked the period leading up to the Wright Brothers' 1903 triumph at Kill Devil Hills. (12 x 12"; $9.95)

☐ **From Temperance to the Queen of Hearts: Historical Playing Cards**—A fascinating and visually stunning assemblage of playing cards and their precursors from around the world and through the ages, accompanied by historical notes and quotations. Full color. (12 x 12"; $10.95)

☐ **Women Who Dared**—Featuring photographs, quotes and short biographies of 12 women who challenged political, social and sexual barriers and opened up new vistas for all. Includes "read more about it" information and birthdays of daring women. (12 x 12"; $10.95)

☐ **A Literary Companion**—Features biographical essays and historic photographs of 12 notable writers, from Frederick Douglass to Willa Cather to James M. Cain, and includes daily notations of birthdays of literary figures. (12 x 12"; $10.95)

☐ **Classical Music**—Second in a series, featuring photographs, manuscripts, instruments and descriptive text pertaining to the Library's music collections. Includes birthdays and other musical milestones, as well as a selection of pertinent quotes. (14 x 16"; $13.95)

The engagement-calendar lineup (lower left and center) includes:

☐ **A Literary Companion**—Second in a series, packed with photographs, quotes, lore and dates pertaining to authors, their works and the writing life. (6½ x 9"; $11.95)

☐ **Dreams of Childhood**—A collection of 53 full-color illustrations and text excerpts from children's books in the Library's collections, encompassing the fantastic world of Edmund Dulac to the wisecracks of L. Frank Baum. (6½ x 9"; $11.95)

☐ **Classical Music pocket calendar**—A convenient-sized and handsome datebook filled with music-related visual delectations (mostly in color) from the Library's collections. (3½ x 5¾"; $7.95)

These calendars may be found in many bookstores and in the Library's Madison Sales Shop. They are also available by mail order from Box J, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–8620. Please add $5 for handling ($6.50 if ordering more than one calendar). Call (202) 707–6095 for more information.

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